

## Fulfilling The Royal Law

(Part 1)  
James 2:1-13

## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

**"The faith"** – Objective sense.

Acts 13:4-12; Galatians 1:11, 23  
The Word Of God = The Faith =  
The Teaching (Doctrine KJV) =  
The Gospel

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**"The faith"** – Objective sense.

- ▶ **"One faith"** Ephesians 4:5; Galatians 3:23-24
- ▶ **"The faith"** may be preached. Romans 10:8; Galatians 1:23

## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

- ▶ **"The faith"** may be obeyed. Acts 6:7; Romans 1:5; Romans 16:26
- ▶ We may stand in **"the faith."** 1 Corinthians 16:13
- ▶ We may continue in **"the faith."** Acts 14:27; Colossians 1:23
- ▶ We may strive (or contend) for **"the faith."** Philippians 1:27; Jude 3

## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

***"My brethren, hold not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, (the Lord) of glory, with respect of persons."***

***Prosopolepsia:*** "partiality, the fault of one who when called on to requite or to give judgment has respect to the outward circumstances of men and not to their intrinsic merits, and so prefers, as the more worthy, one who is rich, high-born, or powerful, to another who is destitute of such gifts: Rom 2:11; Eph 6:9; Col 3:25; plural (which relates to the various occasions and instances in which this fault shows itself)." (Thayer)

## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

***"My brethren, hold not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, (the Lord) of glory, with respect of persons." (ASV). "Partiality" (NKJV); "Personal favoritism" (NASV); "Don't show favoritism" (NIV)***

***Prosoopolempsiais*** – "literally to lift up the face (countenance), meaning 'to regard with favor,' as in Mal. 1:8. If you should offer blind, lame or sick animals to your governor, will he be pleased and accept you favorably?" (James Cooper, Faith On Trial)

## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

### Forbidden in the Old Testament:

*Leviticus 19:15* "Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty; but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbor."

*Deuteronomy 1:17* "Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; ye shall hear the small and the great alike; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you ye shall bring unto me, and I will hear it."

James calls it "sin." verse 9

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## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

### Impartiality is a characteristic of God and Jesus.

*Luke 20:21* "And they asked him, saying, Teacher, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, and acceptest not the person (of any), but of a truth teachest the way of God"

*Acts 10:34* "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons"

*Galatians 2:6* "But from those who were reputed to be somewhat (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth not man's person)."

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## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

### Impartiality is a characteristic of God and Jesus.

*1 Peter 1:17* "And if ye call on him as Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to each man's work, pass the time of your sojourning in fear"

*Romans 2:10-11* "but glory and honor and peace to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek: for there is no respect of persons with God."

*Ephesians 6:9* "knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no respect of persons with him."

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## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

They had demonstrated partiality: (James 2:4-6)

**"Made distinctions"**

**"Become judges with evil thoughts"**

**"Dishonored the poor man ..."**

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How is favoritism shown? James 2:2-3

- ▶ Jews & Gentiles. Acts 11:12-14; 15:7-9; Galatians 2:11-14, 3
- ▶ Rich & Poor. James 2
- ▶ Background. Luke 15:1-32
- ▶ Occupation, friends & standing. John 12

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## "The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism James 2:1

Their error: **"Become judges WITH evil thoughts."** James 2:4

- ▶ Judged on the basis of outward appearance. (John 7:24; cf. Matthew 7:1-12)
- ▶ Evil judging comes from evil hearts. Matthew 12:24-37
  - Evil hearts prevented them from seeing the power of God. Matthew 12:28
  - cf. Apostles judged because they did not follow tradition. Matthew 15:1-20

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*"The Faith" Does Not Allow Favoritism*

James 2:1

The "unlikely" just may listen &

obey

- ▶ **Prejudice** - Woman at the well. John 4
- ▶ **Religious/Gentile** - Cornelius. Acts 10
- ▶ **Non-Religious** - Simon. Acts 8:9-13)
- ▶ **Worldly** - Corinthians. Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- ▶ **Ignorant** - Jews. Acts 2:23; 3:17
- ▶ **Persecutor** - Saul. Acts 8:3; 9:1-2; 1 Timothy 1:15
- ▶ **Political** - Jailer. Acts 16:31-33

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